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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-2209**

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION &  
LABOR  
VICE CHAIR

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH,  
EMPLOYMENT, LABOR & PENSIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHER  
EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE  
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AND NONPROLIFERATION

SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE WESTERN  
HEMISPHERE, CIVILIAN SECURITY AND  
TRADE

April 1, 2019

Chairwoman Betty McCollum  
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,  
and Related Agencies  
U.S. House Appropriations Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member David Joyce  
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,  
and Related Agencies  
U.S. House Appropriations Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman McCollum and Ranking Member Joyce,

As you develop the Fiscal Year 2020 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, we urge you to include robust funding for the Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants authorized in Sec. 4106 of America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018; the Clean Water State Revolving Fund; and the Water Investment Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA). Such funding could benefit critically important infrastructure projects across the State of Michigan, and an ongoing effort to protect Lake St. Clair by improving the Chapaton Retention Basin represents a great example of a project that could compete for relevant funding.

The Chapaton Retention Basin is a 28-million-gallon Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Facility. It opened in 1968 and currently services Interstate 94 (I-94), businesses, and approximately 92,000 residents in Eastpointe, St. Clair Shores, and Roseville, Michigan. The Basin protects residents by efficiently moving storm water out of the community and into nearby Lake St. Clair, thereby preventing flooding. It also boosts economic activity by quickly moving water off major roadways, including I-94, a critical artery within Michigan's highway system.

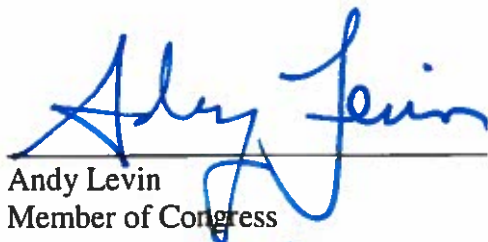
The Chapaton Retention Basin also serves a vital function in protecting the environment. Up to 30 million gallons of storm water and sanitary sewage flow are held in the Basin during heavy rains – approximately seven times per year, on average – and then re-diverted to sewage treatment. An effort to make improvements to the Chapaton Retention Basin exemplifies the type of project that could compete for funding because of the urgent, longstanding need to address Lake St. Clair's water quality problems caused by preventable sewage overflows, including E. coli pollution. Cleaning up Lake St. Clair will yield economic and clean water benefits not just for neighboring communities, but for the entire Great Lakes region.

In addition to providing robust funding to the Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants, the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, and WIFIA, we also request the following report language:

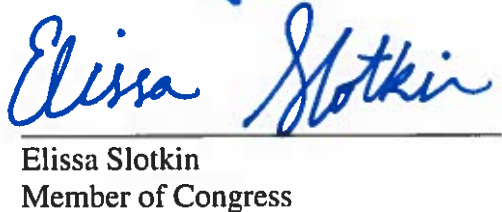
*The Committee urges the EPA to utilize funding for Sewer Overflow Reuse Municipal Grants, the Clean Water Revolving Fund, and the Water Investment Finance Innovation Act to protect fresh water sources.*

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,

  
Andy Levin  
Member of Congress

  
Paul Mitchell  
Member of Congress

  
Elissa Slotkin  
Member of Congress

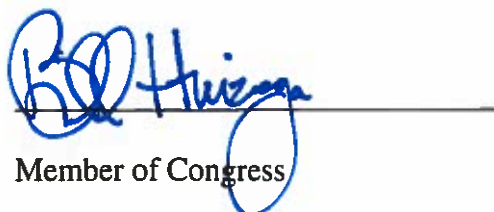
  
Haley Stevens  
Member of Congress

  
Debbie Dingell  
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Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress

  
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